(b) if not, the number of violent incidents committed by separatists in 1996, 1997 and 1998 in the State; and

(c) the number of terrorists, army personnel and Indian citizens killed in each year mentioned above, in these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details are as below:

	1996	1997	1998
Number of violent incidents	5014	3420	2932
Number of Militants killed	1209	1075	999
Number of civilians killed	1336	938	867
Number of Security Force Personnel killed	185	186	232

Infiltrations in J&K

241. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports that about 2000 infiltrators, equipped with latest weapons have sneaked into Jammu and Kashmir during May and August this year;

(b) whether Government have equipped the para military forces with sophisticated weapons, to meet the threat; and

(c) if so, what success para military forces have been able to achieve to neutralise the infiltrators;

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) There have been continued efforts on the park of Pak ISI and pro-Pak militant outfits to induct more mercenaries from across the border into J&K with a view to carrying out terrorist activities. It is difficult to precisely ascertain the exact level of infiltration.

(b) Upgradation of weaponry of the paramilitary forces is an ongoing process and the forces are being provided with appropriate weapons in order to ensure that they are in a position to effectively deal with the emerging security scenario.

(c) The central para-military forces are involved in the anti-militancy operations in J&K alongwith Army and J&K Police and have been able to achieve success on a regular basis in neutralising the militants and foiling infiltration attempts etc. During the current calender year (upto 15.11.1999) 945 militants have been killed by the security forces in J&K.

BID of Baptists for Conversions

242. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 22nd October, 1999 under the caption, Baptists bid co-convert Hindus;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to take up the matter at the appropriate forum; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) According to Article 25(1) of Constitution of India, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion subject to public order, morality and health. Since, 'Public Order' is listed as Item No.I of List-II State List of 7th Schedule of the Constitution, any Law & Order matters relating to conversions are to be taken care of by the respective State Governments.

Militancy in J&K

243. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the militants in Jammu and Kashmir revived a full throttle war with security forces and perpetrated